

## 50 PER CENT OF CHILDREN BLE

Committee Says That Many Have Nothing to Do and Nowhere to Play.

## BIG SUM TO PREVENT CRIME

City Spends \$225,000 to Care for Delinquency, but Little to Prevent It.

Summing up its brief for the pending city ordinance which proposes to devote \$250,000 this year to the maintenance of playgrounds and recreation centers, the Committee on Recreation and Playgrounds, in a statement just issued, draws attention to the fact that while approximately \$225,000 is spent annually by the city on the care of crime and delinquency, only a negligible amount is devoted to the open air agencies which tend to reduce these moral failings.

According to its analysis of the local situation, the Committee asserts that fully 50 per cent of Richmond children spend their out-of-school hours doing nothing because there is nothing for them to do and no place to play. Such a condition of affairs, it holds, is opposed to a progressive program of child development and is a reflection upon a city which spends \$200,000 and more annually on the public schools.

The statement of the Committee on Recreation and Playgrounds follows in full: "The proposal to include \$250,000 for maintenance of playgrounds and recreation centers of nearly fifty organizations owned by the city, is now in the hands of the Budget Sub-Committee of the Finance Committee of the city government. It has received the unanimous endorsement of the Grounds and Buildings Committee of the City Council.

"At a hearing before the entire Finance Committee, the representatives of nearly fifty organizations, with a membership of over 17,000 Richmond people, favoring the appropriation. "Realizing that the Budget Committee has many requests made to it, the Committee on Recreation and Playgrounds has made a study of the entire city expenditures in order to show that the appropriation sought for the extension of the playground work is not too large. They look upon this appropriation in the way of insurance to save some of the large investments which the city has already found it necessary to make.

"The last printed report of the city Treasurer now available is that for the year ending January 31, 1912. In that year the city of Richmond spent \$224,000 on the care of crime and delinquency. This involved the pay of the city police, courts, juries, judges. "Those in favor of the extension of the recreation system are not arguing this expenditure for the Police Department. They only urge that the city shall spend enough for recreation in order to prevent crime and delinquency. "It has been demonstrated that rightly supervised play and recreation builds character. If a city the size of Richmond needs to spend a quarter million dollars in a year to cure for crime, it surely needs to spend an adequate amount to prevent crime.

In the same Treasurer's report it is shown that \$39,872.21 was spent in the Health Department. Friends of the Playground movement do not wish this appropriation cut. They believe that the work for public health in a city the size of Richmond is absolutely essential. It has been demonstrated, however, that exercise and play bring health.

No Place to Play. "It has also been shown by actual investigation that over 50 per cent of Richmond children, even those out of doors are sitting around doing nothing because there is nothing for them to do and no place for them to play. "The city which needs to appropriate \$200,000 for its Health Department, and which will have to appropriate more to this department as the years go on, needs an appropriation for playgrounds in order to induce the investment made in public health.

In the same Treasurer's report it is shown that \$48,266.00 was spent on the schools of Richmond. The friends of recreation do not wish to cut this appropriation. They feel that the children and young people of Richmond are its biggest asset and that education is essential. The fact that a boy or girl is a big manufacturer who finds it necessary to invest nearly a half million dollars in one branch of his work. They feel that insurance that this investment shall not be lost is of the greatest importance. If the children outside of school hours, habits which make their school training useless, the investment of the city in its schools has been largely lost.

It has often been pointed out that the friends of recreation are the farthest from selfishness which is only plain, common sense with individuals. The average intelligent individual looks to the future and provides for the future by insurance. Many communities have tried in a haphazard way, making provision only for immediate needs and not attempting to foresee the needs that come with a growing city.

The Board of Recreation Commissioners will meet tonight at 8 o'clock in special session to pass on an estimate of the financial requirements for the coming year. This information is for the Council Finance Committee.

St. Peter's Clears Debt. The Reverend Father Bowler, of St. Peter's Catholic Church, announced yesterday morning in his annual report to the congregation that the church and parish house were not only free from all debt, but had a balance of nearly \$200 on hand. His commitment of the congregation to its good work.

THE SAVINGS BANK OF RICHMOND 1117 E. MAIN ST.

Your money is safe in any institution that is managed by reputable men. Look at our Board of Directors. UNITED STATES DEPOSITORY FOR POSTAL SAVINGS FUNDS

## EXPECT MERGER PLAN HIS WEEK

Treasury Department to Announce Scheme of Consolidating Virginia Ports.

## TWO DISTRICTS PROBABLE

Seems Most Likely Solution, but SubPort for Richmond Appears Possible.

According to reports from Washington, the basis of the much-discussed merger of Virginia customs districts will be announced by the Treasury Department this week. The nationwide scheme of consolidation is reported to be practically complete, only the case of the Virginia ports awaiting the final touch.

From the best information obtainable it appears to be practically certain that Virginia will emerge from the pruning with two customs districts in place of the four districts into which the State is now divided. The one-district plan, it appears, has been abandoned.

In a semi-official statement last week, Congressman Holland, of the Second Virginia District, who has been active in Norfolk's behalf, said that Assistant-Secretary Curtis, of the Treasury Department, will recommend to the Customs Bureau the merger of the Newport News and Norfolk customs districts into a union Newport News-Norfolk district. With this plan, it was reported, will come the recommendation that the collector of the hybrid port be given his choice of residence, with the reservation only that he spend part of each business day in Norfolk and part in Newport News.

## Commission Has No Effect.

Under the consolidation plan that seems most likely to be followed, two important collectorships will be vacated, the one at Petersburg and one at Norfolk. The plan for the proposed union of the Newport News-Norfolk districts carried with it no intimation as to which of the two collectorships would be removed. In this connection it is worth noting that whatever may be the order of the Treasury Department this week in disposing of the Virginia customs problem, it will take precedence over proposed changes now held by the several collectors. Most of these do not expire until the end of this year.

Such changes may be called for by the order readjusting the customs districts which will take effect all over the United States on July 1, the day following the official end of the fiscal year. The Treasury Department order effecting these changes will be given to the collector of each district and will be expected, automatically revoke all unexpired commissions given under the President's seal.

One Port in Each State. Roughly stated, the plan of the Customs Bureau contemplates that each State will have one customs collection district, and one city in each State the official port. In the case of State that have more than one natural port, these are to be designated as secondary ports, and under the direction of the collector of the principal port.

The scheme follows the retrenchment program laid down by last summer's Commerce Commission. It calls for a reduction of \$300,000 in the annual expenses of the customs divisions of the Treasury Department. It is estimated that the number of customs collectorships in the United States will be reduced by this plan from 45 to 35.

Virginia, Texas, and one or two other States with rival cities claiming the right to be designated the official port, have given the department the greatest concern. It is announced that all claims have been adjusted, and that the consolidation scheme will be given out by Secretary of the Treasury, MacVeagh, this week.

## Richmond May Lose.

While it is the belief of Collector R. H. Arnold that Richmond will not be reduced to the position of a subport, there is a bare probability that this will happen. Unlike Norfolk and Newport News, both of which have enjoyed their utmost to secure an advantageous consolidation, this city until recently made no effort to put forth its claims.

If the Treasury Department will act seriously in conducting the consolidation program which it has mapped out for itself, it is pointed out, it will hardly escape the temptation to consolidate all of Virginia into one customs district. This will mean merely the substitution in several ports of a deputy collector for the full collector, with no shrinkage in revenue and no obstruction to the service.

With this idea in mind and in view of the fact that the Customs Bureau appears to have committed itself in favor of a combined Norfolk-Newport News port, it seems a fair inference that both Richmond and Petersburg will be reduced to the position of subports. Such a change will, of course, have only a slight significance, since Richmond's preeminence in the matter of customs traffic is assured.

Richmonders, however, incline to the belief that Virginia will be given to official ports and that Richmond will be one of them. In this belief they are supported by the collection figures for this port which show that Richmond collects more annually than all other Virginia ports combined and at a fraction of the per dollar collection cost of Norfolk.

## CAUGHT IN WASHINGTON

Salesman Arrested on Charge of Swindling Police Commissioner Gentry.

W. B. Cashion, about thirty-five years old, a salesman, whose home is said to be in Ohio, was arrested yesterday in Washington, D. C., at the request of Chief of Police Walter Gentry, on a charge of swindling \$100 from Police Commissioner R. M. Gentry, of the show firm of J. R. Gentry & Son, 145 East Main Street. Detective Sergeant Wilshire will leave this morning for the prisoner.

Mr. Gentry said last night that he did not care to discuss Cashion's arrest, but added that the salesman got the money from him several weeks ago, when he conspired to cash a draft for him. The paper was returned without being honored. Mr. Gentry then wrote out a warrant for Cashion and he was located in Washington by Captain of Detectives McMahon.

## Alleged Improper Resort.

Peter Johnson was arrested last night by Detectives Gentry and Atkinson, on the charge of maintaining an improper resort at Falmouth, Va. He was bailed for his appearance in Police Court.

## BOARD TO STUDY FREE CLEANING

Special Hearing for Cohn's Department Set for To-Morrow Afternoon.

## COST JUMPED ONE-THIRD

Pay Roll of Department \$29,300 More Than It Was in 1910.

Affairs of the Street Cleaning Department will be taken up at a special session of the Administrative Board to-morrow afternoon at 2:30 o'clock when Superintendent Henry Cohn will present his estimates of the needs of his department for the current year. Mr. Cohn will make his chief plea for more men, claiming that with the growth of the city and the constant extension of paved streets and alleys it is a physical impossibility to keep up with the work with the force at his disposal. Members of the Board are anxious to hear something of improved methods of machinery by the use of which it is believed the work of the department could be greatly aided.

Criticism has been directed against the department for its activity in politics rather than in street cleaning, for its lack of competent gang foremen to direct the men in different sections of the city, and for its improved sweep machinery and flushers, and the use of small one-mule carts instead of larger dump wagons, by the use of which the same driver at the same pay would be able to haul several times as large a load.

## Has Increased One-Third.

Notwithstanding Mr. Cohn's complaint that the size of his department has not kept pace with the growth of the city, it is interesting to note that his pay roll has jumped \$29,300 in three years. The budget of 1910 provided for Street Cleaning pay roll \$22,000. The payroll for Street Cleaning in 1911, following annexation of Manchester, Maryland, was \$25,000. For the year just closing amounted to \$111,200, an increase of \$29,300 over that of 1910.

Expenses, including feed, have uniformly amounted to about \$25,000 a year. The cost of mules, harness and carts to \$5,000 a year. In the last annual budget the Council provided \$25,000 for erection of new stables for the Street Cleaning Department and its building is now about to be occupied. It is of reinforced concrete construction, and is said to be the most complete and up-to-date structure of its kind in the city. Its use would add to the working efficiency of the department, and to the protection of its mules, carts and machinery.

## Men Get \$2.10 Per Day.

The city ordinance does not specify the number of men to be employed as street sweepers, leaving it to the discretion of the department. Justifying the department being required to live within its annual appropriation for pay roll. Last year the Council increased the pay of employees of the Street Cleaning Department from \$2 per day to \$2.10 per day each.

Probably not since the Street Cleaning Department was reorganized in 1911, have there been many complaints of failure to remove ashes, swept alleys and filthy streets as have come in during recent weeks, many of which were no doubt justified, but some of which, on its investigation, the department found to be due to the control of this department. In one recent case where complaint had been made of the condition of an alley, the department had hardly finished giving a thorough sweeping when from the back door of the complainant there was dumped loose into the alley the contents of a large box, making the alley before the first gust of wind as filthy as before. The advisability of reporting such instances to the Police Court for the imposition of the penalties provided by ordinances, is under consideration.

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## AVERT RIOR IN JACKSON WARD

Disorderly Negroes Cause Police Trouble—Prisoner Taken From Officer.

A riot in Jackson Ward in the vicinity of Hickory and Goddin Streets, was narrowly averted yesterday afternoon by the prompt action on the part of the local police, although two negroes succeeded in taking a prisoner. A colored woman, away from Bicycle Policeman Taylor. The prisoner was later recaptured and one of the men who aided in jerking her from the grasp of the officer was also arrested. Taylor began to disperse when the negroes in view of the fact that there was only a charge of misdemeanor against the woman.

Early in the afternoon complaint was made of a disorderly crowd at Hickory and Goddin Streets, and Sergeant Neitz and Patrolman Thomas were sent to break it up. Although their attitude toward the officers was somewhat defiant, the negroes gradually began to disperse, and the officers drew their revolvers. Sergeant Neitz then detailed Taylor to remain in the vicinity to prevent further congregating.

A few minutes later he saw the colored woman, who was apparently drunk and unusually rowdy, and he took her in custody on the charge of disorderly conduct. The arrest immediately drew another crowd. Suddenly the woman's brother, Sam Puryear, and another negro grabbed the prisoner and made a bolt through the crowd. Instead of pursuing her, Taylor remained to again break up the crowd and sent in a call for assistance. Captain Higgins, Sergeant Seiter and Officer Thomas, J. J. Smith, Galbraith and Green quickly responded and no time was lost in again dispersing the negroes. The police remained on the scene until any chance of an outbreak was eliminated.

## Found in Tobacco Plant.

Len Jones, colored, was arrested yesterday morning by Bicycle Policeman Stephens and Hart, when he was found in the plant of the Liggett & Myers Tobacco Company, Seventh and Cary streets. At the City Police Station he was charged with entering the place with intent to commit robbery.

## Seven Caught in Raid.

Seven negroes were caught in a raid last night by Patrolmen Volpe and Jennings on a house in the rear of 121 South Second Street. They were found engaged in a game of "skin." Those who had sufficient money to pay a fine of \$100 were freed, and the others were locked up at the Second Police Station.

## BUDGET CARRY \$3,500,000

Many Demands on City Treasury for Increased Expenditures.

## BOARD ASKS PROMPT ACTION

Would Get Public Improvements Under Contract Without Interminable Delay.

Budget-making will engross the time of the Council Finance Committee, and of the various department heads of the city government for the next few weeks. The problem of how to make 3,000,000 of revenue meet 10,000,000 of demands is not an after one, and some sharp use of a pruning knife by the budget subcommittee may be expected in connection with the requests of the various departments. The forthcoming budget will carry a total of approximately \$3,500,000. Efforts will be made to report it to the Council as soon as possible in order that public improvements may be placed under contract as early as a date as practical in order that the public work of the city may be carried on without interruption. The annual appropriation ordinance was reported to the Council on February 26, and carried a grand total of \$1,350,381.93, of which amount the item of \$47,381 for widening Rosenburg on August 20, and the paving contractor struck his first pick September 16, just six months after the Mayor signed the appropriation ordinance.

Old Committees Wasted Time. Notwithstanding the efforts made last year to secure the early adoption of the budget in order that the public work of the city might be carried on without interruption, much time was lost by the various committees. Funds for the repaving of Broad Street were available from March 15, but it was not until June that the Street Committee took the matter up to the extent of a trip to Atlantic City. Wrangling among themselves, the committee did not award a contract until August 12; the street car company began replacing its rails on August 20, and the paving contractor struck his first pick September 16, just six months after the Mayor signed the appropriation ordinance.

The case of the First Regiment Armory was similar. The budget provided \$35,000, and authorized the Committee on Grounds and Buildings to contract for an armory to cost not more than \$100,000. One delay succeeded another, and it was not until the final meeting of the committee, late in December, that the contract for the building was signed.

Board Wants Prompt Action. The Administrative Board, anxious to see its intention as far as practicable of eliminating this form of delay, it has already taken the bull by the horns and advertised for bids for the Broad Street paving, west of Third Street, contract to be awarded when funds are available, and the car company has been notified to rebuild its tracks on West Main Street, for the board will pave there as soon as the street fund is subject to its control.

Special Accountant George S. Crenshaw is already at work on a skeleton plan for the budget, in which he has placed the various fixed items to be provided for. One third of the budget is already in the hands of the Board of Health, and the other two thirds are in the hands of the Board of Public Works. The budget is a monthly bulletin on health conditions. The bulletins usually came out a month or two late, after the work of the department was over, and others save for historical purposes.

## Streets the Greatest Need.

Of this there is already obligated funds sufficient to erect the new First Regiment Armory—\$100,000. The Board of Health has again and again complained that he has been positively embarrassed and the city's cause injured by his having to go into court and defend himself against the charges of the Board of Health. The budget-makers will have something like \$600,000 to \$700,000 to apportion into permanent improvement money.

When the city went outside of its general contract it took it a year to get its code printed and bound, the volume having been amended in nearly every chapter before it was available for use. During the period of former contracts for city printing, City Attorney Pollard has again and again complained that he has been positively embarrassed and the city's cause injured by his having to go into court and defend himself against the charges of the Board of Health. The budget-makers will have something like \$600,000 to \$700,000 to apportion into permanent improvement money.

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## HIT HIM WITH BRICK

So, Police Lock Up Man Who Flung It At a Deputy.

Frank Beasley was arrested yesterday morning before daybreak by Patrolmen Campdonia, Wyatt and Chandler on the charge of hitting John Chandler on the head with a brick. Beasley attempted to interfere with Wyatt and Campdonia when they arrested two of his friends for disorderly conduct. His attitude became threatening and Wyatt told Beasley to consider himself under arrest, and the officer deputized Chandler to hold him. As the latter took hold of his arm, Beasley is alleged to have thrown the brick. As he did so he turned to run, but landed in the arms of Talley, who had seen the disturbance and was coming to the aid of the other officers. The trouble occurred at Mayo and Broad Streets. When the First Police Station a charge of felonious assault was made against Beasley. Chandler received an ugly scalp wound, which was sewed up by Dr. H. T. Hawkins, City Hospital ambulance surgeon.

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## Sam Lee Arrested On Charge of Violating Liquor Law.

Sam Lee, the Chinaman who appeared as plaintiff in a case in Police Justice Crutchfield's court several days ago and who tried to tell the court how to handle the case, will face The One John this morning in the role of defendant. Lee was arrested at his place, 42 North Third Street, by Officers Traylor, Carter and Sims when they received information that he was running a "blind tiger." In raiding the place they found a large quantity of beer and whiskey. At the Second Police Station the Chinaman was charged with selling liquor without license.

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## BOARD DEMANDS PROMPT DELIVERY

Makes Startling Announcement That City Printing Must Be Done on Time.

## WILL CORRECT OLD ABUSE

Volume of Ordinances Ordered Last September Not Yet Ready.

In advertising for proposals to do city printing during the current year, the Administrative Board inserts the startling and almost revolutionary announcement that it will adhere to the city ordinance requiring certain grades of printing to be delivered on contract time. More honored in the breach than in the performance, the ordinance has long been a dead letter and the delivery of city printing a matter that suited the convenience of the printer, regardless of the needs of the city.

The advertisement inserted by Clerk W. W. Dunford in accordance with the board's instructions states that sealed proposals for furnishing the city with stationery, printing, binding and advertising for the remainder of the year will be received by the Administrative Board until 10 o'clock A. M. Friday, January 31, when the bids will be opened. After telling where and how to get the bids, the advertisement contains this startling clause: "An ordinance of the city, approved February 10, 1910, provides that the annual reports of the various heads of departments shall be printed and bound within sixty days from the time copy for same is placed in the hands of the printer. It is required that the ordinance be enforced, and a provision to that effect will be inserted in the contract."

## A Novel Idea.

That the idea of requiring city printing to be delivered in any reasonable time is absolutely novel may be shown by the fact that the bound volume of annual reports for 1910 were not ordered until the first of the year, and the volume of city ordinances and resolutions of the City Council ordered printed last September, has not only not been delivered, but the page proofs have not yet been delivered to City Clerk August, so that he can make the proper index. The volume covers the work of the City Council for two years, and will be the first volume of ordinances and resolutions supplementary to the City Code of 1910, and for that reason its publication is eagerly awaited.

Clyde W. Saunders, who holds the present city contract, is not the only one who has delayed. But the page proofs have not yet been delivered to City Clerk August, so that he can make the proper index. The volume covers the work of the City Council for two years, and will be the first volume of ordinances and resolutions supplementary to the City Code of 1910, and for that reason its publication is eagerly awaited.

## ACCEPTS PASTORATE

Rev. John W. Kinchelov Replies to Call of Bainbridge Street Baptist.

Rev. John W. Kinchelov announced at the conclusion of his sermon yesterday morning at the Bainbridge Street Baptist Church, North Richmond, that he will accept the pastorate offered to him last week by the congregation. He succeeds Rev. James W. Durham, who resigned to take a church in Roanoke, and will begin his work at once.

## Mercury at 61 Degrees Brings Thousands to Streets and Parks.

With only one more month of life allotted to it in the almanac, the winter of 1912-13 remains still largely a myth. Yesterday, according to all cold-forecasting formulas, should have been chilly with the winds of the North. Instead, it came with the warmth and sunshine of a day in March and brought a whiff of impending spring. Thousands of men, women and children broke through the snow and ice and sought the streets and the grass in answer to the first faint call of summer. On the West End avenues where promenaders were in evidence all day long, there was little to remind one that it was January and not April. Overcoats were rare and furs still scarcer.

Capitol Square for the first time this year held a crowd which occupied every available bench. The squirrel-feeders, young and old, were out in full strength, and the grass, grown green all around, all around. Only the bare trees still moribund and untouched by running sap, destroyed the illusion.

The record at Chimbazo says that it was never warmer than 61 degrees yesterday. The record is usually right. Sixty-one, however, is far from being January weather for Richmond. It belongs properly in Palm Beach and Tampa. The same record says that the mean temperature for the day was 65—only eight degrees higher than normal. All of which is mathematically correct, but those who were out yesterday will agree that it was spring.

## GET CHINESE TIGER

Sam Lee Arrested On Charge of Violating Liquor Law.

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## We Continue

A sale which offers unusual opportunities for the late purchaser. Suits and Overcoats that sold as high as \$28,

## Now \$16.00

Gans-Rady Company

## Visiting Nurse Truly an Angel

Minister Makes Plea for Association Which Aids the Sick and Lowly.

The impression made by a McCutcheon cartoon in The Times-Dispatch upon the Rev. Frank L. Wells, pastor of the Broad Street Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was so strong that in a talk preliminary to his sermon yesterday morning he made an urgent appeal for finances in behalf of the Visiting Nurses' Association, to which the morning collection was contributed. The cartoon represented two angels, one with white wings in the skies, the other a white-robed visiting nurse ministering to the sick and the lowly. Mr. Wells said often these cartoons were sermons, and the one representing the two angels impressed him as one of the strongest sermons in favor of a worthy cause that he had ever seen.

So strong was this impression that he had doubted his own ability to do more than to add to his oratorical repertoire the words of the Visiting Nurses' Association, and he expressed the wish that his description of the picture would cause liberal donations from the congregation.

Mr. Wells brought out the attributes and the foundation upon which the life of a Christian are based. Being a Christian, he said, was not in allowing the body to become emaciated and living a life of seclusion, but in taking exercise and keeping the body healthy, so that the mind would be clear, allowing the use of all of the faculties and talents that had been bestowed upon humanity. If a man has a special talent for painting, he served his Master properly in exercising that talent, and likewise if the talent was along any other line, Christianity was shown by the use of such talent. He said that it was the duty of every man and woman to add to his or her talents, and to use them for the benefit of others.

There was no mention of his bravery at the time, but a careful record was made by the Navy Department, and it came as a surprise to Ensign McDonough when he was presented with the three merit certificates on his retirement.

Ensign McDonough is the son of Thomas McDonough, of Richmond, who served in the navy for forty-two years and won an enviable record. The latter will be remembered by older citizens of Richmond. He was a member of the First Virginia Life and Drums Corps during the War Between the States, having gone out in 1861 at the age of twenty years.

The young officer is especially well-known at the Boston and Charleston Navy Yards. He was stationed at the latter post for a long while fitting out the North Dakota. He married Miss Sadie Johnson, of Quincy, Mass., about a year before he was injured in the explosion. It is expected he will make his home in this city.

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Mr. Kinchelov is well known to the Baptists of the city. He received his ministerial training at Richmond College, and supplied as student pastor in the pulpit of the Stockton Baptist Church, Va. He is a native of Fairfax County, and saw his first service as a preacher at Crewe.

For some time Mr. Kinchelov has been stationed at Princeton, N. C., where he was instrumental in securing the erection of a new \$50,000 church. He is known as a forceful speaker and as a man of attractive personality. During his pastorate at the Princeton Baptist Church the membership increased from 200 to 300.

## RICHMOND GETS WHITE OF SPRING

Mercury at 61 Degrees Brings Thousands to Streets and Parks.